



Deputy Under Secretary of Defense

Advanced Systems & Concepts

SUCCESS STORY

JCTD System Improves Maritime Domain Awareness



MASTER JCTD system automatically tracks ships

The Maritime Automatic Super Track Enhanced Reporting (MASTER) JCTD is improving the warfighter's maritime domain awareness and warfighters want it now.

“Awareness and threat knowledge are critical for securing the maritime domain and the key to preventing adverse events,” said the 2005 *National Strategy for Maritime Security*. However, shortcomings regarding this awareness were also

pointed out in this strategy, National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD-41), and Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPD-13).

Launched in 2007, the JCTD is demonstrating a network system that fuses data from multiple sources, automatically tracks global shipping of all sizes, associates tracks with cargo and provides analyst alerts on unusual activities. The system can be accessed by dispersed military and law enforcement agencies via standard Internet browser on classified networks. Even though MASTER is still in demonstration, U.S. agencies use the system for real-world problems. Following its recent demonstration, users insisted the MASTER capability remain with maritime analysts to assist with real-world operations.

The system was operationally demonstrated June 23-25, 2008 in TRIDENT WARRIOR, a Navy experiment designed to expedite technology to naval warfighters. Its incorporation into TRIDENT WARRIOR provided an opportunity to expand the user community and demonstrate interoperability. Users included U.S. Northern Command, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Third Fleet, Office of Naval Intelligence, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Intelligence Coordination Center, and the USCG Maritime Intelligence Fusion Centers Atlantic and Pacific. They provided positive feedback, which will enable system improvements in the next several months. While users conducted scripted scenarios, each site also used real-world cases to test operational suitability. Users have incorporated the MASTER system into operational processes in combatant commands, and Navy and Coast Guard intelligence organizations.

For more information on the ACTD/JCTD program, visit: www.acq.osd.mil/jctd/.